

03599.000076.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Anna Skibinsky
MASAYA OGURA)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 1631
Application No.: 10/659,300)	
	:	
Filed: September 11, 2003)	
	:	
For: INFORMATION)	
PROCESSING METHOD AND	:	
SYSTEM USING MEDICAL)	
EXAMINATION DEVICE AS	:	May 29, 2007 (Tuesday following
MEDIUM)	Memorial Day Holiday)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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AMENDMENT

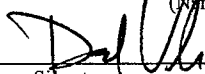
Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 26, 2007, please amend the
above-identified application, as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile
to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300, on:

May 29, 2007
(Date of Transmission)

Damond E. Vadnais, Reg. No. 52,310
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

	May 29, 2007
Signature	Date of Signature

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 10 to 14 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Please amend Claim 1 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory the particular additional information about the medical examination device while correlating the particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the particular additional information relates to an inspection result and a usage record of the medical examination device; and

sharing and utilizing the particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification of the medical examination device,

wherein the medical examination device is a DNA chip.

2. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular

additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first and second particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

3. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the

medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

4. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

5. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

writing down fourth particular additional information relating to a disposal after the inspection in the memory while correlating the fourth particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from the first to fourth particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

6. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the

medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down, through an inspected person, third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

7. (Withdrawn) An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, a plurality of input / output units for remotely writing information into and reading the information from the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the step of sharing and utilizing the particular additional information

about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the network is the Internet.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the particular additional information about the medical examination device includes information of a lifetime of the medical examination device.

10 to 14. (Cancelled)

15. (Withdrawn) An information processing system comprising:
a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;
a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and
a plurality of input units for remotely writing the particular additional information down in the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said input units being provided at least for a supplier of the medical examination device, a seller who sells the medical examination device supplied by the supplier, and an inspection institution that inspects the medical examination device.

16. (Withdrawn) An information processing system comprising:
a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;
a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and
a plurality of input units for remotely writing the particular additional information down in the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said input units being provided at least for a supplier of the medical examination device, a seller who sells the medical examination device supplied by the supplier, and an examinee subject to an examination using the medical examination device.

17. (Withdrawn) An information processing system comprising:
a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;
a memory, particular additional information about the medical examination device being remotely writable into and readable from the memory through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and
a plurality of input/output units for remotely writing and reading the particular additional information in and from the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, wherein a plurality of users share and utilize, based on the identification, the particular additional information including the usage

of the medical examination device which has been written while correlated with the identification in the memory.

18. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the network is the Internet.

19. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device includes information of a lifetime of the medical examination device.

20. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a device for inspection with a quartz crystal microbalance reaction.

21. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a DNA chip.

22. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a lab on a chip that provides a channel on a substrate for processes on the substrate through a chemical or physical reaction.

23. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a protein chip.

24. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a DNA micro-array.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of users comprises venders, distributors, inspection institutions, and individual users, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

writing down second particular additional information about the medical examination device in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the second particular additional information relates to a circulation of the medical examination device; and

writing down third particular additional information about the medical examination device in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the third particular information relates to an inspection of the medical examination device.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 26, 2007. Claims 1 to 9 and 15 to 25 are pending in the application, of which Claims 2 to 7 and 15 to 24 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 1 is the only independent claim under consideration. Claims 10 to 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter recited by Claim 11. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,167,358 (Othmer). Claims 11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Othmer in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,139 (Nova). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to a feature of the invention as recited by Claim 1, the medical examination device is a DNA chip.

The Office Action concedes that Othmer does not disclose the above-discussed feature. Yet, placing reliance on Nova, the Office Action takes the position that this feature would nevertheless have been obvious. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no indication of motivation that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to use the matrix of Nova with the software monitoring system of Othmer. The Office Action points to column 66, lines 14 to 40 of Nova. However, this portion of Nova is merely seen to describe that the matrix may include a memory, and that such memory is remotely programmable. It is not seen how the

mere fact that the matrix includes a remotely programmable memory would motivate the skilled artisan to use the matrix with Othmer's software monitoring system.

The dependent claims under consideration are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each of these dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. E. Vadnais', is written over a horizontal line.

Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 52,310

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TO:	Examiner: Anna Skibinsky Group Art Unit 1631		
FROM:	Diamond E. Vadnais, Reg. No. 52,310		
RE:	U.S. Application No. 10/659,300 Attorney Docket No. 03599.000076.		
FAX NO.:	(571) 273-8300		
DATE:	May 29, 2007	NO. OF PAGES:	16 <small>(including cover page)</small>
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MESSAGE

Attached are the following papers for the above-identified application:

1. Amendment; and
2. Transmittal for Amendment.

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(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


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